St. Thomas the Apostle

Feast Day, July 3

The Patron Saint of Architects

St. Thomas the Apostle was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. When Jesus said He was returning to
Judea to visit His sick friend Lazarus, Thomas immediately exhorted the other Apostles to accompany Him on the trip.

St. Thomas the Apostle is best known for his role in verifying the Resurrection of his Master. Thomas'
unwillingness to believe that the other Apostles had seen their risen Lord on the first Easter Sunday earned him the title of "doubting Thomas."

Eight days later, on Christ's second apparition, Thomas was gently rebuked for his skepticism and furnished with the evidence he had demanded - seeing in Christ's hands the point of the nails. Thomas even put his fingers in the nail holes and his hand into Christ's side. After verifying the wounds were true, St. Thomas became convinced of
the reality of the Resurrection and exclaimed, "My Lord and My God," thus making a public Profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus.

At the dispersal of the Apostles after Pentecost, Thomas was sent to evangelize to the Parthians, Medes,
and Persians. Thomas ultimately reached India, carrying the Faith to the Malabar coast, which still boasts a large native population calling themselves "Christians of St. Thomas."

In art, Saint Thomas is commonly depicted as a young man holding a scroll, or as a young adult touching the resurrected Christ's wounds.

Saint Thomas was mentioned in several texts, including one document called The Passing of Mary, which claims then-apostle Thomas was

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St. Thomas Cathedral Basilica in Mylapore, Chennai, India

Basilica of St. Thomas the Apostle in Ortona, Italy

the only one to witness the Assumption of Mary into heaven, while the other apostles were transported to Jerusalem to witness her death.

St. Thomas the Apostle is the patron saint of architects, and his feast day is celebrated on July 3.

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